

Rushmore Newsletter

Volume 16, Number 1

March 2023

Overseeing Elders:

Siwell Road
Church of Christ
4075 S. Siwell Road
Jackson, MS 39212

Helping to continue
the missionary
labors of the
late J.C. Choate

Coworkers with
Betty Choate
Jerry & Paula Bates
Shane & Emily Fisher
Wayne & Janet Barrier
Nigel & Jasmine Milo
& others

Involved in these good works:

Voice of Truth
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Gospel
Gazette Online

Global Harvest

Overseas
Campaigns

International
Radio & TV

Foreign
Bible Schools

Worldwide
Publishing &
Distribution of
Literature

India, Myanmar,
Singapore,
Sri Lanka, Guyana

Louis Rushmore
*Gospel Gazette
Online*, Editor
*Voice of Truth
International*,
Editor

Rushmore Update

Louis Rushmore

Unfortunately, Martha and I were unable to personally participate this year in the series of workshops throughout Guyana, South America. Nevertheless, the workshops were conducted under the able leadership of brother Nigel Milo and fellow presenters Calvin Semple and Anil Surgrim. See details and highlights in text and in pictures elsewhere in this edition of the *Rushmore Newsletter*.

A statewide homeowner insurance crisis in Florida, where we reside, and immediately necessary property maintenance with respect to insurance prevented us from going to Guyana in February. In addition, Martha's youngest son Bryan (51 years old) began to have a series of cancer surgeries in January, for which Martha as well as her son desired her presence. So far, Bryan has had about ten surgeries through the present, and more surgeries lie ahead. Regrettably, most of these operations have been unsuccessful so that for more than a month Bryan has remained hospitalized in SICU in Youngstown, Ohio.

Since the hospital is an hour from where Bryan and his wife Melissa live, whenever Melissa had to work, Martha was confined to the hospital for up to 48 hours at a time – sleeping in chairs or on couches in waiting rooms or in Bryan's room when he was doing more poorly. Alternatively, Martha was able to spend some nights in a hotel a few miles from the hospital; however, being lodged on the second floor and having the elevators go out of service presented Martha problems, especially since she was using a walker. Traveling by bus between the hotel and the hospital was difficult for her, too.

As I pen this article, Bryan's future successful medical treatment is uncertain. He has to recover from successful surgeries before he can begin chemo and radiation treatments; besides being present for the initial large operation (about 17 hours), Martha intended to drive Bryan to chemo and radiation treatments.

Tuesday, March 7, I drove from Ocala, Florida to Meridian, Mississippi and lodged with brother Therman and Sadie Hodge, and the next evening, I attended Bible class with them with the Union, Mississippi Church of Christ (one of our supporters). Later that week, I drove to Winona, Mississippi and lodged with coworkers brother Jerry and sister Paula Bates; this afforded me the opportunity to load up some of my books, as well as to visit my late wife Bonnie's gravesite and to refresh it. Sunday morning, March 12, I worshiped with the Old Union Church of Christ, outside of Carrollton, Mississippi (also one of our supporters), and that evening, I worshiped with the Elliott, Mississippi Church of Christ (another of our supporters). Afterward, I drove to my daughter Rebecca's home in Collierville, Tennessee. Wednesday, March 15, I attended Bible class with the Collierville Church of Christ (also one of our supporters). Saturday, March 18, I traveled to Dickson, Tennessee to be with the Sylvia Church of Christ for a Gospel meeting Sunday through Wednesday. Then, Saturday, I drove to Theodore, Alabama to speak at all services of the Bellingrath Church of Christ (another congregation that supports us) on Sunday, March 26. Monday, I drove home to Ocala, Florida so I could attend medical appointments on Tuesday and Thursday.

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www.TheVoiceOfTruthInternational.com ~ www.WorldEvangelism.org

2023 World Evangelism Media & Missions Workshops

Louis Rushmore

The 2023 World Evangelism Media & Missions Workshops transpired in 8 of the 10 regions of Guyana, South America from February 6-25. Guyanese preachers Nigel Milo, Calvin Semple and Anil Surgrim were the speakers. Workshop locations included Yupukari, Culvert City, Inverness, Kildonan, Kaituma Mouth, Mabaruma Hill, New Road, Paramakatoi, Emmore and Leguan. The theme was “Being the 1st Century Church Today,” and topics included “Evangelism,” “Boldness,” “Priorities,” “Conviction,” “Doctrine” and “Holiness.”

Mustard Shirts

Mustard was the color of the program shirts worn by presenters this year. In prior years, shirts were either brown or blue, and I prefer the blue. Since I did not personally participate this year, brother Nigel, the Director of World Evangelism Media & Missions Workshops, chose a color he preferred. Consequently, the primary team members for the workshops and auxiliary presenters or aids sported mustard colored shirts this year, embroidered with our logo and reference to Romans 16:16.



Attendance

Attendance has steadily increased since the end of the pandemic. (The workshops were uninterrupted despite the pandemic but continued to a lesser degree.) However, the annual logistical analysis by brother Milo also contributes greatly to the successes of workshop attendances. I almost hesitate to show up in future workshops since attendance was so good in my absence!



Method in Our Madness

We take the workshops to the people. Lacking a good infrastructure of highways throughout the country and hindered economically, brethren are unable to travel to a centralized location – such as Georgetown or Linden – for several days to avail themselves of a lectureship. Thus, we take the workshops to the people across Guyana. We’ve been doing this for several years, and apparently, we’ve not worn out our welcome, since many congregations throughout the nation continue to be represented in our programs. Our Guyanese brethren would like more workshops, and in some places, they beg for additional days and nights. However, this year, ***we broke the bank***, and so, in the future, we’re going to have to place a spending cap each year on our workshops.

My heart melts each year as I see especially small children and their families. This year, too, we have some beautiful pictures of families and children.



Transportation

In the USA, we take transportation for granted. We don’t give it much thought. We drive almost everywhere we go, and we can board a commercial airliner if we need to travel farther and faster than other means available to us. Abroad in developing countries, transportation is often far different from what we are accustomed.

Food and Environment

Food and environment overseas often differs from food familiar to me. The manner of preparation as well as the food being prepared diverge from my normal food preparation and menu items.

Meetinghouses

Almost all of the churches of Christ in Guyana have meetinghouses. They vary from structures nearly like our church buildings to much more humble structures. Whether in a home, outside or in a meetinghouse, the people of God will assemble to worship. The percentages of Guyanese Christians within their respective communities assembling for worship rivals or exceeds percentages of Christians in the USA assembling to worship where they live.

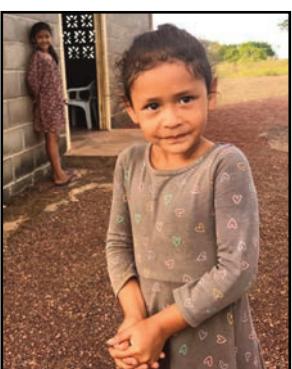
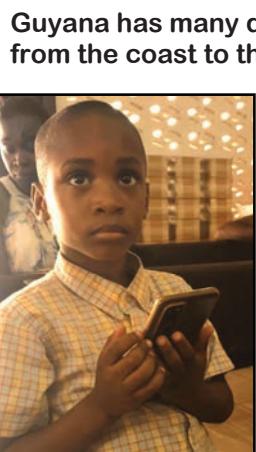
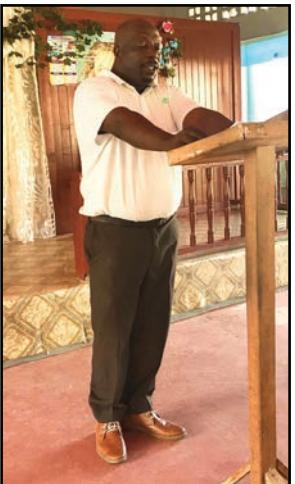
Guyana Fact Briefs

Guyana is the only English speaking country in South America, though interior tribes may also speak their respective tribal languages. The country is comprised of about 80,000 square miles of jungles, mountains and rivers. Guyana is known as the land of many waters; the Essequibo River is 20 miles wide at its mouth where it flows into the Atlantic Ocean. Interestingly, 90% of the nation is jungle, but 90% of the population lives on 10% of the land along the coast. The three largest ethnicities are first, descendants of India, second, descendants from African nations, and third, indigenous people referred to as Amerindians. Guyana is rich in natural resources of gold, diamonds, bauxite and offshore oil. ☺

Pictures Speak More Loudly than Words







Children are a blessing, and Christian families are a national treasure to Guyana.

Journey to Good Health

Martha Lynn Rushmore

On January 27th, my son Jim and I flew from Daytona, Florida to Charlotte, North Carolina and then on to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Jim then rented a car and drove us to Wellsville, Ohio to the home of my youngest son Bryan and his wife Melissa. We arrived in the evening after a stop at the cemetery where my late husband Bob is buried. We also went to Walmart so I could pick up a few toiletries and incidentals for my stay with my children.

We had a short visit with Bryan and Melissa before he went into the hospital in Youngstown, Ohio for cancer surgery on Monday the 30th. For the weekend, we spent Saturday with them and then went to a birthday party for my great-granddaughter Kaisley. Melissa made lasagna for supper, which was very good. Then Sunday, we went to church with Bryan and Melissa. Then they went to Bible class and worship with us at the Hanoverton Church of Christ. This was the last congregation with which Bob and I worked before moving to Ocala, Florida on January 1, 2015, taking his pancreatic cancer with us.

After leaving Hanoverton on Sunday, the four of us headed to Ashland, Ohio to see my daughter-in-law Sharon Noland, my late son Bob's wife. We had a good visit with her, my grandson Justin, his wife Jessie and my great-granddaughter Adaley. We finished a great day by going out to supper and then back to Wellsville to prepare for Bryan's hospital stay.

We had to be at the hospital by 5:30 a.m. for a 7:00 a.m. surgery. This surgery was to be 12 hours long, but instead it was 17 hours. This should have been an omen for me – if I believed in omens. The doctors got all the cancer as well as took bone and skin from Bryan's lower right leg. To make a long story short, Bryan has had all kinds of setbacks since his first surgery. The two skin grafts in his mouth did not heal. The doctor then tried a different procedure. It was from the old school. Unfortunately, it did not work either. Bryan's body is starting to look like a jigsaw puzzle.

Melissa asked the doctor about bringing a blood doctor in to check his blood. They found out Bryan was allergic to the heparin (a rare allergy). The blood was flowing into the blood vessels of the repaired area, then clotting so the blood could not flow out to help keep the grafts alive. Unfortunately, we did not know he had this allergy for a few weeks. This is why Bryan had so many problems of unknown cause.

For 36 days, Bryan, Melissa and I were on the worst roller-coaster (longest) ride we have ever endured in our lifetimes. Bryan seemed to go one step forward and then two or more backward. We have been strong for the most part, but of course, there were some low periods, though they did not last long.

March 6, Bryan was taken back for his 11th surgery in 37 days. He had the pectoral muscle, blood vessels and fat pulled under his neck skin and then pulled up to his chin and mouth. This is almost a 100% guarantee to heal. This was our prayer, and it seems to be working. He has made it for 9 days so far. If this were not going to work, we would have known by day five.

Melissa left for home, and I stayed at the hospital with Bryan, as I have done after every surgery. This made him feel secure, and therefore, it did me too. I was not allowed to stay in his room since he is in the SICU (where he has been since his first surgery). I slept in the surgical waiting area on a bench. The nurses provided me pillows and blankets.

Bryan ran a low-grade fever, which I guess is good. It sends the blood to the area of the operation and speeds up the healing process. He had some swelling in the abdominal area. One of the nurses jumped on this at once and informed the doctor on duty. Bryan was taken to have a CT scan. When he was brought back to his room, the nurse said as soon as the results were in, I would be told and what if anything needed to be done. Everything was okay. It seemed at last Bryan was on the road to recovery.

As of this writing, Bryan has been in the SICU for 44 days, and he still will have to go to Select Care, which is a step-down unit. He has been approved for 45 to 60 days. We are hopeful by the time he gets home that his radiation will have been done and he will have started his chemo. Since the first surgery, he has had a tracheotomy and a feeding tube because the surgery was on his chin, mouth and jaw. Though Bryan had 11 surgeries in 37 days, through all this, he has kept a good attitude of healing most of the time. Of course, we have all had tears and lots of prayers.

I know Bryan has done as well as he has mentally and physically in this recovery process because of all the prayers going to our God on his behalf. We all want to thank you for all the prayers, visits, cards and help financially. What a blessing from the Lord for such great friends in our lives. God bless you all. We still covet all your prayers! 



Bryan & James Bryon

November 2022 – February 2023

Income	
Foreign Travel	\$27,985.00
North India Fund	\$25,000.00
Rebates/Refunds/Discounts/Resale	\$3,879.85
Books Sales	\$130.00
Literature & Bibles	\$1,600.00
Contributions	\$23,298.03
Louis & Martha Rushmore	\$6,000.00
Total	\$87,892.88
Expenses	
Bank Fees	\$5.82
Business Entertainment & Gifts	\$524.52
Guyana Shipping & Distribution	1,710.00
Guyana Workshops	\$26,000.00
Guyana Literature & Bibles	\$121.86
Guyana TV	\$6,000.00
Literature	\$2,009.35
Medical Expenses	\$3,239.09
Auto Expenses	\$5,485.17
Stateside Travel	\$609.92
Internet (Gospel Gazette Online)	\$1,146.39
Office (supplies/equipment/software subscriptions/help)	\$1,832.98
Postage/Shipping	\$373.16
Housing	\$10,909.96
Business Telephone	\$338.94
Newsletter	\$946.56
Total	\$61,253.72



Above: Nigel Milo, Anil Surgrim and Calvin Semple



Clarification: I have not taken a cash salary for several years. All remuneration associated with my ministry and mission work is in the form of housing, auto, medical and insurance benefits. In addition, Martha and I usually make a monthly contribution of \$2,500 to \$3,000 to the working fund, making us the largest monthly supporters of our ministry and mission work. Last year, we gave \$35,000.00 to this ministry.

Yes! We want to help Louis & Martha Rushmore in foreign missions to India, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Singapore & Guyana.

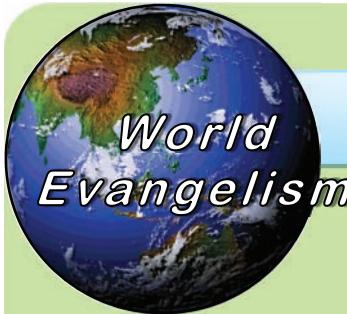
- Here is a onetime gift of \$_____ to be used as needed.
- I (we) plan to send a monthly gift of \$_____ beginning _____ (month).
- Here is my (our) gift of \$_____ for English language literature & Bibles.
- Here is my (our) gift of \$_____ toward overseas travel & missions.
- Here is my (our) gift of \$_____ to print foreign language literature.
- Here is my (our) gift of \$_____ for India TV Guyana TV & Internet.
- I (we) plan to include the World Evangelism labors of Louis Rushmore in our will.
- The _____ Church of Christ is closing, and we wish to contribute the assets to the World Evangelism labors of Louis Rushmore.

Name _____ Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

**Mail to the Rushmores' overseeing congregation:
Siwell Road Church of Christ, 4075 S. Siwell Road, Jackson, MS 39212**



**"...Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.
He who believes and is baptized will be saved..."** (Mark 16:15-16).



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